

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7912

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1455

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAS TD

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS RE SAN JOSE CONFERENCE ON RIO TREATY

REF: STATE 133032

1. I DISCUSSED FORTHCOMING SAN JOSE CONFERENCE WITH
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERMANENT SECRETARY ABDULAH
JUNE 13. ABDULAH WAS WELL BRIEFED AND WE WENT THROUGH AN
ARTICLE BY ARTICLE DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED RIO TREATY
AMENDMENTS DURING WHICH I PRESENTED POINTS IN REFTEL.
SIGNIFICANT GOTT VIEWS FOLLOW.

2. GOTT IN GENERAL IS PREPARED TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS
PROPOSED BY OAS SPECIAL COMMITTEE. GOTT FEELS THAT A
PARAMOUNT MATTER OF IMPORTANCE TO IT IS REINFORCEMENT OF
CONCEPT OF INDIVIDUAL STATE SOVEREIGNTY AND RESTRAINT
UPON ORGAN OF CONSULTATION ACTING IF NOT REQUESTED BY
AGGRIEVED STATE.

3. ARTICLE 2. GOTT WILL SUPPORT AMENDMENT.

4. ARTICLE 2 (BIS). DESPITE EFFORT TO PERSUADE ABDULAH
OF INADVISABILITY OF ARTICLE ON INTEGRAL ECONOMIC SECURITY,
IT WAS OBVIOUS AT CONCLUSION THAT GOTT WILL NOT OPPOSE
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ADOPTION OF THIS ARTICLE. ABDULAH TOOK APPROACH THAT NEW

ARTICLE DID NOT OBLIGATE GOTT TO ANYTHING SPECIFIC. SINCE IT WAS ESSENTIALLY NON-OPERATIONAL WITHOUT ACTUAL NEGOTIATION OF THE SPECIAL TREATY REFERRED TO, AND LATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE RATIFIED SEPARATELY, HE INDICATED GOTT COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO VOTE AGAINST HORTATORY LANGUAGE CALLING FOR ECONOMIC SECURITY WHEN ECONOMIC ISSUES WERE FOREMOST IN DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED STATES AT THIS TIME.

5. ARTICLE 3: WE DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH THE PROBLEM INHERENT IN THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 3 AND THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE TREATY CLEARLY BE APPLICABLE TO ARMED ATTACKS FROM OUTSIDE THE HEMISPHERE. ABDULAH INITIALLY INDICATED THAT HE FELT PARAGRAPH FOUR ADEQUATELY COVERED ALL CONTINGENCIES INsofar AS ACTION BY THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION IS CONCERNED, AND THAT PARAGRAPHS TWO AND THREE ESSENTIALLY RELATED ONLY TO ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN INDIVIDUALLY BY STATES PENDING THE CONVENING OF THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION. HOWEVER, HE DID CONCEDE THAT SOME AMBIGUITY OF RESPONSE COULD BE INFERRED FROM THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE. (COMMENT: WE HAVE AT LEAST PLANTED SEED THAT PERHAPS SOME REWRITE OF ARTICLE 3 IS PERTINENT. IT MAY BE USEFUL TO FOLLOW-UP FURTHER IN SAN JOSE IF USG HAS SPECIFIC ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE TO OFFER.)

6. ARTICLE 6 (BIS); ADOPTION OF THIS ARTICLE IS ONE OF TWO PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES OF GOTT AT SAN JOSE, THE OTHER BEING REVISION OF ARTICLE 17.

7. ARTICLE 9: GOTT CAN ACCEPT PROPOSED AMENDMENT, FOR GOTT INTERPRETS DEFINITIONS OF AGGRESSION AS ILLUSTRATIVE AND NOT LIMITING FOR THE ORGAN OF CONSULTATION.

8. ARTICLE 17: GOTT STRONGLY ENDORSES PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PERMIT REMOVAL OF SANCTIONS BY MAJORITY VOTE. ACTION TO REMOVE CUBA SANCTIONS AFTER ADOPTION PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENT WAS NOT DISCUSSED, SINCE INSTRUCTIONS AUTHORIZED ONLY ON "IF ASKED" BASIS AND ABDULAH DID NOT RAISE IT.

9. ADHERENCE BY BARBADOS AND JAMAICA. ABDULAH SAID HE HAD IMPORESSON BARBADOS WOULD PROBABLY ADHERE TO RIO TREATY AFTER ARTICLE 17 REVISED. HE STATED GOTT HAD NEVER BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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CLEAR AS TO REASONS WHY BARBADOS DID NOT RATIFY TREATY EARLIER, EXCEPT THAT ISSUE SIMPLY HAD BEEN PUSHED ASIDE UNTIL REMOVAL OF CUBA SANCTIONS QUESTION HAD BROUGHT TREATY TO FOREFRONT IN BRIDGETOWN AND THEN BARBADOS UNWILLING TO RATIFY WITH CUBA SANCTIONS INTACT.

10. GOTT DELEGATION TO SAN JOSE. DELEGATION NOT YET DETERMINED, BUT WILL PROBABLY BE HEADED BY MINISTER IN

THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DR. CUTHBERT JOSEPH.
RICH

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